(a) whether it is a fact that the registered demand of gas is around 240 MMSCMD while allocation is committed for 90 MMCMD;

(b) the areas and projects for which commitment is made;

(c) what would be the recoverable balance if 90 MMCMD is consumed after two decades; and

(d) what is the time schedule to fulfil the committed and registered demand ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Gas allocations have been made to various fertiliser, power and sponge iron plants, to other industrial consumers, and for City Gas Distribution at Hazira, Uran along the HBJ pipeline, in Assam and Tripura, and in the K. G. and Cauvery Basin.

(c) The balance recoverable reserves would depend on the accretion of additional reserves during the two decade period.

(d) It is proposed to meet the committed demand by the end of Eighth Plan period. Allocations against the additional registered demand would depend on the establishment of additional gas reserves in various regions.

Short term parking of surplus funds with Oil Companies

1489. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have lately taken steps to encourage short term parking of surplus funds by rich oil companies as reported in the Economic Times of September 15, 1992;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme; and

(c) what are the main objects thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Privatisation of marketing of L.P.G. L.S.H.S. and Kerosene

1490. DR. BAPU KALDATE :
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :
SHRI SURESH KALMADI :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to allow the private sector to market L.P.G., L.S.H.S. and Kerosene in the country;

(b) if so, what is the decision taken by Government in the matter.

(c) what are the considerations which weighted with Government to allow the private sector to market these products; and

(d) what is its likely impact on the price structure and the consumer as a whole ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) There is no such decision of the Government of India.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

कच्चे तेल के उत्पादन में गिरावट ।

1491. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :**
श्री वीरेन जे० शाह :

क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान देश में कच्चे तेल के उत्पादन में निरंतर गिरावट आ रही है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि देश में ऐसे अनेक मध्यम और छोटे आकार के कच्चे तेल के भण्डार थे जिनसे उत्पादन किया जा सकता था;

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने ऐसे मध्यम और छोटे आकार के कच्चे तेल के भण्डार क्षेत्रों से कितना-कितना वार्षिक

उत्पादन कर पाने की संभावना का पता लगाया है, इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है;

(घ) इन क्षेत्रों में किन कारणों से अभी तक उत्पादन कार्य प्रारंभ नहीं किया जा सका है; और

(ङ) सरकार ने भविष्य में इन क्षेत्रों में उत्पादन कार्य प्रारंभ कराने के लिए क्या योजना बनाई है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री बी० शंकरानन्द) :

(क) पिछले 3 वर्षों का क्रूड आयल उत्पादन नीचे दिया गया है :—

वर्ष	मात्रा (मि० मी० टन)
1989–90	34.09
1990–91	33.00
1991–92	30.345

(ख) से (ङ) कई मध्यम और छोटे आकार के आयल एवं गैस क्षेत्रों को जिनकी उत्पादन क्षमता कम नहीं है विकास के लिए प्राइवेट क्षेत्र को देने का प्रस्ताव किया गया है।

Running of the Arunachal Express with slow speed

1492. Shri NYODEK YONGGAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Arunachal Express which covers the entire North Bank of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh from Guwahati to Murkongselek (Jonai) is running at slow speed; and

(b) whether Government are taking steps to increase the speed of the above train ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The average speed of 5713/5714 Guwahati-Murkong Selek Arunachal Express is about 30 KMPH as compared to the average speed of 36.9 KMPH of all M.G. Mail/Express trains. This is due to low permissible speeds on Rangapara North-Murkong Selek section.

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(b) No, Sir. The entire section is included for conversion to BG in the Action Plan under project Unigauge and as such any expenditure at this stage for increasing the speed will be infructuous.

Supply of wagons

1493. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the extent of demand and supply of wagons division/zone-wise and present shortage of wagons during busy and lean months;

(b) whether the problem of acute wagon shortage has assumed critical stage in some divisions and what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the details of immediate and long term measures proposed to be taken to meet the problem; and

(d) what are the details of 'own your wagon scheme' and results achieved thereunder so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) The 'Own Your Wagon' Scheme visualises private ownership of general service and special type wagons to enhance the rail transport capacity to meet the needs of various sections of the economy. The scheme has been announced on 8-9-92 and has generated a lot of enquiries.

Doubling of the Railway tracks

1494. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) what are the names of the sections on which single railway tracks have been doubled in view of increase in passenger traffic last year;

(b) what are the area-wise details thereof; and

(c) what is the criteria for doubling the railway tracks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) Names